

# Water Hammer Press



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

"COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"

2nd Quarter, 2006

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## Happenings

**June 10th**  
2006 Annual Firefighter Credit Union Dance  
**June 21st & 22nd, 27th**  
Firefighter Safety Stand Down Day  
**July 1st**  
Sugar Creek firefighters Poker Run  
**August 19th**  
Remembrance Motorcycle Ride  
**October 7th**  
Carmel Public Safety Day

## Congratulations!

Congratulate our newest Paramedics!

**Brad Allen**  
**Chris Ellison**  
**David Horner**  
**Ian Reppert**  
**Dustin Schooler**  
**Michael Zeller**

## Year-to-date Statistics

EMS Runs: 1151  
Fire Runs: 678  
Total Runs: 1829

## Recent Carmel Fire

On 03-19-2006 units were dispatched at 0522 hrs to 212 W. 136th Street on a reported residence fire.

First arriving units found a fully involved fire in an abandoned house. Units were able to extinguish the fire in about 1 hour. Units were on the scene until 0917 hours.

The call originated from a homeowner 2 doors west of this address, they stated that they heard popping and crackling and looked out their



kitchen window and saw the abandoned structure on fire.

They did state that they heard voices but did not see anyone leaving the scene. The cause of the fire was ruled arson.

- Fire Investigator,  
Lt. Alan Young



## Carmel Firefighter works the Indianapolis 500



Captain Jim Spelbring is the Carmel Fire Department's Safety Officer. When he is not performing his duties for the department during race season, he serves as a member of the fire safety crew at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The fire safety crew responds to fires and crashes in the pits and on the track in which Jim has been a member for the last 6 years. During the Indy 500, he works on a truck in turn #4. During the Brickyard 400, he is on a truck in turn #3. A truck responds to any incident on the track with four firefighters.



The driver of the truck acts as the incident commander, two firefighters are assigned to car extinguishment if it is on fire, and one firefighter is assigned to respond to and offer assistance to the driver. The fire safety crew also drives around the track to dry it out when it has rained. During race day 2004, to allow the race to continue, the crew put 250 miles on the truck as they drove around the track to dry it out.

The fire safety crew doesn't wear the usual structural turn out gear. Spelbring (Continued on page 2)



## Chief's Moment

A clever opening does not exist for the following article. I want to take the time to thank everyone for what they do for the Carmel Fire Department but note a special thanks to a few people. The people and their deeds speak for themselves. They ask for nothing but give and continue to give of themselves. These kinds of human beings are why most of us love working in the fire service...

**Lt. Joe Butts**, Thank you, so much, for providing your heavy equipment to dress up the front of Headquarters. It looks great and we have had so many compliments. I also know it was back-breaking work, so thanks to you and the guys from **C-Crew** who helped make it look so good! Please welcome **FF Adam Harrington** back from Mexico. Adam represented the Carmel Fire Department with the Rotary on a mission tour of a large region of Mexico. He says he has plenty of stories to tell, so take the time to visit with him. He did us proud! Welcome back Adam!

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says, "we wear long underwear made of nomex, then a suit made of three layers of nomex." The Indy cars run on methanol and you can't see it burn. If you feel like you are being stung by a bunch of bees, then you know you are on fire.

Spelbring says, "working there is a lot like working at the firehouse." A lot of the guys that work there are from the Indy area, but some come from other states. We like to have fun and we are always pulling pranks on someone, but its all business when you are on the track.

You always have to keep one eye on the race



Photos provided by Indyspeedway.com



"I really like working here", Jim says. You get to see a lot of famous people and it can be very exciting, especially when there are a lot of wrecks. If anyone is at the Speedway in May or August, Jim will be there as well. You can stop by the fire station at the south end of the pits behind the suites to say hello if he is not in the truck on the track.

**-Safety Officer,  
Capt. Jim Spelbring**



## Spotlight



**Danica prefers hairy (furry)  
or short muscular drivers.**

## GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE Travel Opportunities™

### FIREFIIGHTERS, CHECK THIS OUT!

Government Employee Travel Opportunities (G.E.T.O.) is a "Space Available" lodging program that offers government employees the opportunity to take affordable condominium vacations at resorts around the world for only \$299 per unit per week. "Space Available" (or "Space-A") is a concept that is very familiar to the US military.

G.E.T.O. has taken this concept and applied it to privately owned resorts and recreational travel opportunities. G.E.T.O. does this by accessing excess or unused inventory at condominium timeshare resorts. "Excess" inventory consists of condominium units that resort owners do not use. Rather than let the unit sit empty, G.E.T.O. makes it available for government employees to rent at a very reasonable rate.

There are no sales pitches and no gimmicks. You can also make reservations for your friends and family.

[www.getravelop.com](http://www.getravelop.com)

A program will be put on the intranet concerning the Flu from the County Health Department. It should be operational by the end of June.

We should start testing the LifeNet system in June. Ambulance 41 will be the testing apparatus. LifeNet training for the whole dept. will be in the next 2 months. (Barring no problems).



## EMS News



We are currently in the final process in the agreement for affiliation between CFD and St. Vincent Carmel Hospital. We will no longer be affiliated with St. Vincent 86<sup>th</sup> Street when this is complete. Carmel will have a part time employee to assist us with training.

We can now get supplies out of the ER storage

Pyxis. If you do not know how to do this please contact me. Also, hopefully by the end of June the medics will have access to the medication Pyxis system to replace drugs. Training will be forthcoming.

Some of the Patient Care Reports are being misplaced or are not being turned in on a timely fashion. Please make every attempt to complete all paperwork before you leave your station every duty day. There are several ways to do this: hospital computer, ambulance computer, or station computer.

Thanks to everyone for doing a great job!! Keep it up and everyone be safe!

**-EMS Director, Lt. Tom Small**

## Carmel Firefighter Returns from Mexico

Hola, its great to be back. I lost 15 pounds while in the Mexico City area for a month...and it wasn't from visiting the gym! However, I have already started to gain it back thanks to the wonderful welcome home taco / burrito dinner from my crew here at 41's.



We basically stayed with different host families every 2-4 days and visited the local fire stations, police stations, red cross services (they handle EMS), government buildings, and tourist sites. It was a great experience and one that makes you feel so fortunate for the equipment that we have to work with here.

One department that I visited, Toluca Mexico, had

two stations for approximately 1 million people. Their two ladder trucks were both tillers; a 1946 and a 1959 Pirsch. In Mexico City, they have 11 stations for an estimated



20 million people. Another interesting note is that every station I visited had bee suits. Apparently the fire departments down there get a lot of bee calls each year (one dept had 200+ calls last year) and they said they use buckets of soapy water to combat them.

Thanks to the department for allowing me to go and to the Carmel Rotary club for sponsoring me. I believe the Central Indiana Rotary District will be sending another team next year. If anyone is interested in more info just get with me.

**-Firefighter, Adam Harrington**





**THANK YOU!!**

I would like to thank the Carmel Fire Department for a great retirement party and those who came out for the celebration. Again, I want to express that I have enjoyed being a part of CFD and I will always cherish the memories I have from over the years as being a firefighter.

**- Retired Firefighter,  
Steve Hodson**

**New City Projects on the Horizon****Carmel City Center**

(Rangeline Rd. and City Center Dr.)

This unique structure will have levels varying from 4 to 8 stories and a one level underground parking garage. Earth work should be proceeding soon.

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**

(NE Corner of Shelborne Rd. and 106th St)

This will be a phased project with the worship center and offices starting in the first phase. The activity wing and classrooms will be constructed in the second phase.

**-Fire Marshal**



**Capt. Gary Hoyt**

**Home Depot**

(near Michigan Rd. and 99th St.)

They are expecting a completion date and opening before Christmas. They will have to push it to make that date.

**Carmel Art Gallery/Townhouses**

(N side of Main St. between Rangeline & 1st Ave. NW)

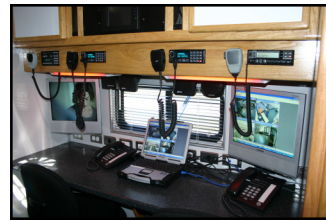
This is a building that will house an art gallery, office, and four two story luxury townhouses.

**Carmel's New Public Safety Command Vehicle**

The City of Carmel and Clay Township has recently taken delivery of a new Public Safety Command Vehicle.

The command vehicle is 42 feet long and is equipped with the latest communications and data equipment available to public safety. The mobile vehicle can be utilized for numerous types of emergencies, weather disasters, and large public events.

Orientation training will occur in early June.

**New CFD Recruits**

Once again we are getting ready to start a new recruit class. I anticipate that we will have 4 people in this class. The plan is to start the fire school on July 10th and EMT school on October 2nd. Watch for new recruit faces around the firehouse soon.

**-Training Director,  
Lt. Mark Gugel**

**Fire Training Officer Update**

This summer is going to be busy with training. Here are some updates and things happening for June, July, and August. There could be things added or taken away, so check the schedule daily at the beginning of shift just to make sure.

Below is a list of CFD's fire training scheduled for the summer.

- **June** — Firefighter survivability skills, command vehicle orientation, live fire training, and Safety Stand Down.
- **July** — Firefighter survivability skills and driver proficiency skills.
- **August** — Driver proficiency skills.

**- Brian Mayo, Fire Training Officer**

**Hoosier Burn Camp Ride 2006**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2006 HBC Ride and Visitor's Day. We had a great day with great riding weather. We had approximately 75 motorcycles in the ride and raised nearly \$7,400.00. Thanks again to those who planned the ride, our sponsors, our riders, and others who attend Visitors' Day!

**NEW CFD E-85 Compatible Vehicles**

The Public Education Division staff will be driving new E-85 compatible Chevy Impalas. They will be in service once the decal and lighting packages are applied and installed.

This CFD purchase helps fulfill the mayor's executive order

requiring that all newly purchased city vehicles be flexible fuel vehicles.



These vehicles will be able to conveniently fill up at the Rangeline Road Crystal Flash or any other station that decides to offer E-85.

**-Public Education Officer,  
Lt. Bruce Knott**



Thursday evening of 5-25-06 turned out to be quite an event for the City of Carmel, it's emergency services, and mutual aid.

The second wave of the storm that came thru Thursday evening at around 6:13pm, brought with it 21 emergency calls to the Carmel Fire Department alone.

The City of Carmel has six fire stations strategically placed East, West, and Central to enable us to respond to emergencies as quickly as possible. Thursday evening stretched our resources while we responded to many emergency calls. Starting at about 6:13pm, and ending around 8pm, there were two confirmed residence fires. Five calls of possible residence fires. Five power line fires. Eight additional residence alarm calls, all of which are potential residence fires. One tree fire.

A fire at 11410 Welford Way. was located in the roof area. Quick response from firefighters contained the fire to the attic area. The residence sustained some smoke and water damage in the second story.

A second fire at 3786 E. Carmel Dr. started in the attic area, and was contained to that area. Damage was kept to a minimum due to efficient fire scene attacks by Carmel and Fisher's Firefighters.

During large volume emergency calls like this, fire departments rely on mutual aid assistance from neighboring departments. We thank fellow firefighters from The Town of Westfield, The Town of Fishers, and The City of Noblesville who responded to emergency calls with us.

# Indianapolis 500 Race Car Designer's Invention Replaced Fire Horses

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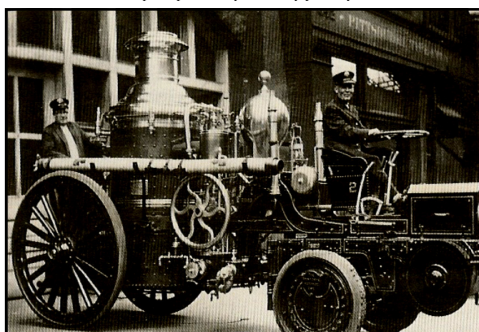
It took three strong, well-trained horses to pull a full size steam fire engine in the early 1900's, and "steamers" were in use by most cities and towns of any consequence. They were rugged and dependable, and the municipalities had a great deal of money invested in them.

But after the turn of the century, fire apparatus manufactures started to replace steam pumpers with engines that not only pumped the water, but were propelled to the fire by new-fangled internal combustion engines, powered by gasoline instead of horses. The new "motorized" fire engines were more efficient than even the old reliable steamers, but who could afford them? Few cities were willing to scrap their steamers and reinvest in motorized engines, even though they could replace and go faster than the faithful horses.

An enterprising designer of Indianapolis 500 race cars, John Walter Christie, came up with a solution. He formed the Front Drive Motor Company in Hoboken,



Above photo provided by www.Indyspeedway.com



One of John Christie's tractors pulls Pittsburgh's Steamer 2.

New Jersey, in 1912, and proposed to pull steam fire engines to fires with gasoline-powered, two-wheeled tractors. His invention did the trick. During the seven year history of his company, he turned out more than 600 ninety-horsepower tractors, most of which pulled steamers. Some of them pulled ladder wagons and water towers as well. But as cities began to convert to motorized engines, the steamers with their horses and, then, even Christie's tractors began to fade from the scene. By the 1920's the vast majority of America's fire apparatus had become motorized.

Although other manufactures "borrowed" Christie's idea and jumped on the bandwagon with their own gasoline-powered tractors, Christie's was the most popular. Whatever glory Christie failed to achieve on the track at the Indianapolis 500, he won with his valuable contribution to the fire service — the Christie front-wheel tractor.

- W. Fred Conway

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**Capt. Tony Collins** – This time of year reminds us all of your selfless dedication to the **Hoosier Burn Camp** children. I beg all of our employees to please not forget the children of the Burn Camp. If you were unable to attend the Hoosier Burn Camp ride on May 31<sup>st</sup>, please consider a donation (however, large or small) to the camp. Special thanks to **BC Gary Dufek, Eng. Renee Butts** and **Public Ed. Officer Bruce Knott** for all the extra work they do for the Hoosier Burn camp!

**Camp Emma Lou** is another camp near and dear to our hearts and the hearts of **FF Eric Frenzel** and his family. As most of you know, the camp is still under construction near Lake Monroe in Bloomington. For any and all of you who can give some time in construction work or donate to the **Enis Furley Foundation**, it would sure help them out. The camp will be dedicated with the intent of allowing sick children and their families to have a healing place where they can enjoy themselves in peaceful and happy surroundings. Many of our guys have been to the camp to help during this construction phase... some more than others, but it doesn't matter. If you have 2 hours or 200 hours, every donation of time and energy helps the camp. Thanks so much to: **FF Eric Frenzel, Capt. Tony Collins, Lt. Tim Conner, FF Cory Essex, FF Steve Frye, FF Adam Harrington, FF Jared Kinney, Eng. Rick Martin, Lt. Scott Osborne, FF Al Peterson, Lt. Craig Phillips, FF Chris Ryan, FF Virgil Weaver, and FF Bill Workman.**

**Lt. Orbie Bowles** – I can't thank you enough for your energy, time and hard work. The countless hours you put in at meetings and with our department exemplify why you and the members you represent are held in such high regard by the Administration. Regardless of whether we agree or disagree, I admire your decency and fairness along with your ability to remain respectful and professional. Your

## Checkout the Reynolds's triplets

Introducing Anna, Noah and Elijah Reynolds.



Six months old

Our sweet miracles were born on November 13,

2005 at St. Vincent Women's Hospital in Indianapolis. They were born 10 1/2 weeks early. Anna was 2 pounds 10 ounces, Noah was 2 pounds 8



Anna attacking her bear

ounces, and Elijah was 1 pound 2 ounces. After much care, love, and prayers from family and friends, Anna and Noah came home from the NICU on December 16 after 33 days in the hospital. Elijah came home on March 6 after 113 days in the NICU. We feel truly blessed at how well our little ones are doing.

We would like to say thank you to everyone that has prayed, asked, and thought about Anna, Noah and Elijah. Your support has been truly appreciated.



Shawn & Linda Reynolds

members are lucky to have you represent them! **Capt. Matt Hoffman** – You have given a lot of time and used your speaking skills to further advance issues for the members of your union, like Orbie, you have always remained trustworthy and respectful regardless of whether or not we were on the same side of the fence. Thanks for your hard work and the work of all the Union officers. Many times a thank you doesn't get expressed.

I am so proud of each and every one of you. Your gifts of time and energy make a big difference in the lives of others, you make us all proud to be a part of this organization! If I have forgotten to mention someone you have my sincere apology, it was honestly accidental. To all of CFD's employees, have a safe and happy summer.



- Fire Chief, Doug Callahan